

**CAMDEN HARBOR COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF
AUGUST 1, 2011
MEETING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Gene McKeever, Ben Ellison, Ben Cashen, Richard Stetson, Ray Williamson, Harbormaster Steve Pixley and Town Manager Roberta Smith.

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Castner and Willard Wight

1. NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Peter Castner addressed the committee concerning the issue of his float in front of his property on Bay Road being in non-compliance with the harbor ordinance. The size of the float was questioned to the committee by Sid Lindsley at an earlier meeting due to the size of the float did not conform with the ordinance due to the square footage and the committee had directed the harbormaster to follow up on this matter. Mr. Castner informed the committee that he has registered the float as a work barge and has attached it to his float which now puts the float in compliance with the harbor ordinance. It is now legally considered a registered vessel which is the requirement of the ordinance.

Willard Wight discussed with the committee his concerns for safety in the inner harbor of daysailers coming into the harbor with sails up. The committee agreed with his concerns. It indicated there are other vessels besides daysailers that are also coming into the harbor in the same manner. The harbormaster said he had spoken to a daysailer captain concerning this issue and the committee said that the issue should be taken care of by the harbormaster. They also suggested that the harbormaster speak to any other vessels that may be entering the harbor in this manner. The committee really does not want to put regulations in place to deter this and feels that the harbormaster should be able to handle this situation.

Ben Ellison was not completely comfortable with the Castner float issue, however, the committee as a whole was reminded that there is not a thing they can do about it as it fall within the harbor ordinance regulations. Town Manager Smith reminded the committee that sometimes people will ask why the harbormaster is not doing something about certain things in the harbor and said that even loose things need to be addressed. Willard Wight reminded the committee that they are only an advisory committee and although, they commonly give good advice that the Select Board has the final say in matters.

2. **APPROVAL OF JULY 11TH MINUTES:**

Ben Ellison motioned to accept minutes with a correction to the recommendation to the Select Board in Item #5 to read as follows:

The Harbor Committee recommends to the Select Board to approve the "Short Term Projects" and funding (See Attached) as written and in addition, to accept the line item for the "Launching L Floats" for an estimated cost of \$36,960.00.

Ben Cashen seconded motion. **Passed 5-0.**

3. **HARBORMASTER'S REPORT:**

Harbormaster Pixley reported to the committee that he has doubled the electricity voltage at the docks. Richard Stetson asked what the status of the dumpster issue is at this time. Pixley has posted signs on the dumpster and that seems to be working well.

4. **STEAMBOAT LANDING SIGNAGE:**

Town Manager Smith reported that Rick Seibel has ordered the necessary signage. She told the committee that in order for the parking rules to be enforced the signage needs to be there as painted road signage is not enforceable.

5. **SHORT TERM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN READIED FOR PRESENTATION TO SELECT BOARD:**

Harbormaster Pixley told the committee he was concerned about depleting the capital reserve funds with the exception of approximately \$20,000.00. He felt that they might be cutting themselves short for any additional expenses that may arise. Town Manager Smith indicated that the capital reserve plan does not plan for the new dock system. Chairman McKeever and Ben Ellison feels strongly that this is something that needs to be done as they have made do with the dock system over the years and the harbor usage has greatly increased. Town Manager Smith said that just because the docks are not in the plan does not mean they should not be done, they just need to be added to the plan before presenting to the Select Board. She said currently there is \$148,000 in reserve and \$120,000 would be used for the marina improvements based on figure given by Gartley & Dorsky, which would leave a balance of \$28,000.00 that could be used toward several of the other items on the capital reserve plan and as a cushion for unexpected maintenance needs. She suggested a time line for estimated completion dates of the project list be itemized by Fiscal Year to be submitted to the Select Board. Smith also asked if the committee had a cost estimate of the dredging planned for the inner harbor. Harbormaster Pixley will call Gary Neville to get an estimate for this.

Ben Ellison made a motion to recommend to the Select Board to approve going forward with the "main float project", along with the advertising for bids and the withdrawal of monies from the reserve fund needed. He also, motioned to request the Select Board to approve the FY12 harbor projects of replacing the pilings and the proposed marina improvements at the town landing.

Ben Cashen seconded motion. **Passed 5-0.**

It was suggested that Will Gartley be present at the Select Board meeting on August 16th to answer any questions needed for the approval of the floats.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m. with the next meeting scheduled for September 12th at 7:30 a.m. at the Camden Yacht Club.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene Libby
Harbor Clerk